Fumetsu no Hana

"Eternal Flower"

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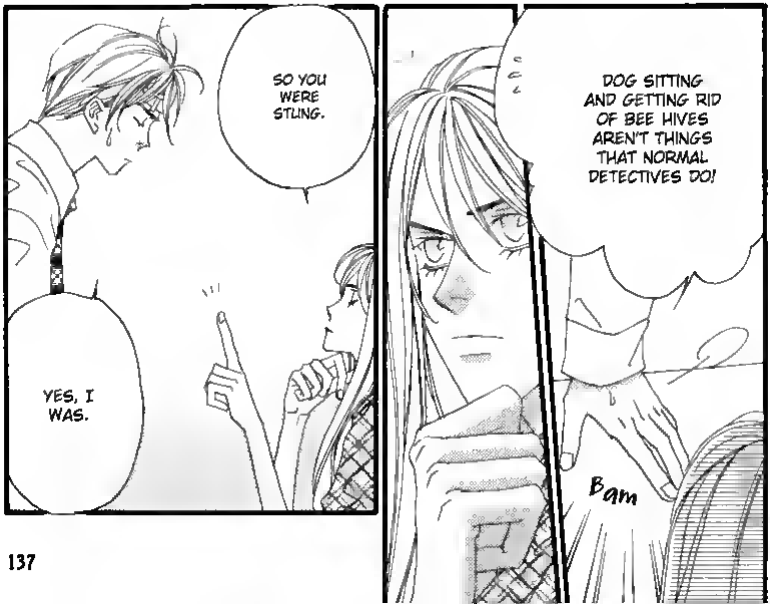
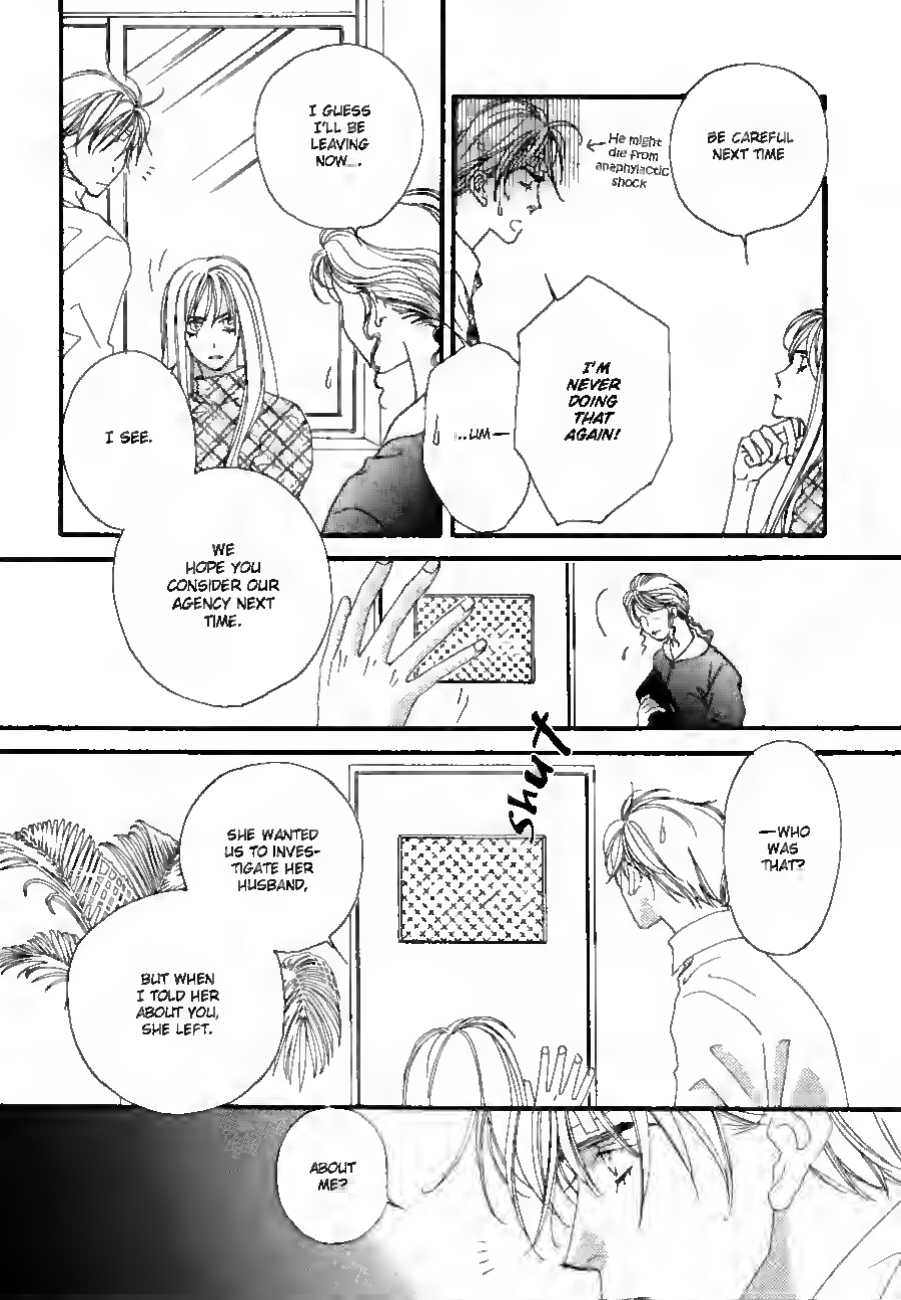
I'm Not Fit to be a Detective 2

Note- The prequel to this story is published as chapter 2 the manga "Tsuki no Sabaku".

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, I WAS NEVER INTERESTED IN DETECTIVE WORK— NOR WAS I FIT FOR IT.
BUT SINCE I'VE DECIDED TO DO IT...
I'M TRYING MY BEST SO MY CUSTOMERS LEAVE THE AGENCY SATISFIED.
HOWEVER ...
Kuroyagi Detective Office
click
WELCOME BACK, DETECTIVE GOAT.
MISS FUMIO!
SLAM
Oh

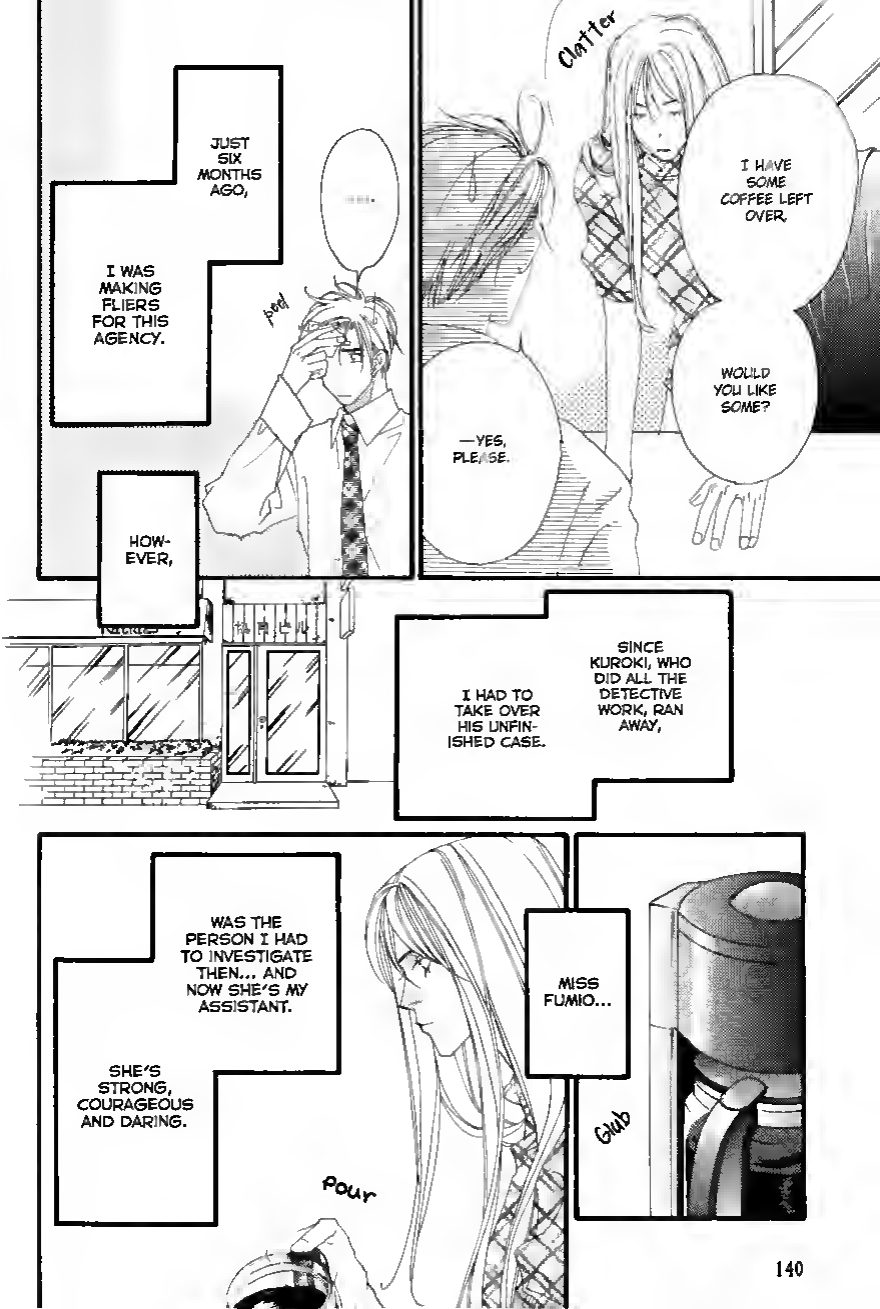
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FORE-HEAD?
...I'VE BEEN WON-DERING FOR A WHILE NOW,
HOW DO YOU DECIDE ON WHAT CASES TO ACCEPT?
GENERALLY WE JUST GRAB ANY-THING THAT COMES IN
ARE YOU HAVING PROBLEMS WITH THE JOB DESCRIP-TIONS?


SO YOU WERE STUNG.
YES, I WAS.
DOG SITTING AND GETTING RID OF BEE HIVES AREN'T THINGS THAT NORMAL DETECTIVES DO!
Bam


I GUESS I'LL BE LEAVING NOW...
I SEE.
WE HOPE YOU CONSIDER OUR AGENCY NEXT TIME.
← He might die from anaphylactic shock
BE CAREFUL NEXT TIME
...UM—
I'M NEVER DOING THAT AGAIN!
shut
SHE WANTED US TO INVESTIGATE HER HUSBAND,
BUT WHEN I TOLD HER ABOUT YOU, SHE LEFT.
—WHO WAS THAT?
ABOUT ME?

SNAP
"HE CAN'T FOLLOW PEOPLE WITHOUT GETTING CAUGHT."
NO WONDER I HAVEN'T GOTTEN ANY CASES THAT WERE REMOTELY CLOSE TO DETECTIVE WORK!
—DON'T DECIDE THAT ON YOUR OWN!
HOW WOULD YOU KNOW UNLESS I TRY!?
No professionalism.
clatter clatter

Heavy Persuasion


JUST SIX MONTHS AGO,
I WAS MAKING FLIERS FOR THIS AGENCY.
...
Sigh
HOW-EVER,
Clatter
I HAVE SOME COFFEE LEFT OVER.
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME?
—YES, PLEASE.
I HAD TO TAKE OVER HIS UNFIN-ISHED CASE.
SINCE KUROKI, WHO DID ALL THE DETECTIVE WORK, RAN AWAY,
WAS THE PERSON I HAD TO INVESTIGATE THEN... AND NOW SHE'S MY ASSISTANT.
SHE'S STRONG, COURAGEOUS AND DARING.
Pour
MISS FUMIO...
Gulp

smile
?
glance
CLATTER
HERE YOU GO, MR. GOAT.
HER WORDS SEEM LIKE SHE'S PICKING AT EVERY MISTAKE I MAKE,
AND IT'S SAD HOW I GET ALL WORKED UP OVER IT.
I wonder how old she is?
SHE'S SO MATURE...
click
click
I KNOW IT MYSELF, BUT—
THAT IT'S MY FAULT FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO RUN THINGS SMOOTHLY.
BUT NO ONE HAS TO TELL ME...

BAM
uroyagi Detective Office
IS THIS THE BLACK GOAT DETECTIVE AGENCY?
Spurt
ARE YOU DETECTIVE BLACK GOAT?
Stomp
IS THIS TRUE?
IT SAYS YOU'LL ACCEPT ANY CASE ON YOUR FLIERS!
I NEVER EXPECTED SOME HOODLUM TO COME INTO THIS PLACE!
—IT'S YAGI.

I WANT YOU TO FIND A RING.
IS IT A MURDER?
Accepting any case!
Do you have any of these problems?
WELL,
I DON'T THINK THIS IS SOMETHING I SHOULD ASK A DETECTIVE OFFICE, BUT...
Kuroyagi
A RING?
IT'D TAKE A WHILE TO EXPLAIN IT ALL,
BUT AS YOU CAN SEE—

I'M A VISUAL-KEI MUSICIAN.
REALLY? VISUAL-KEI!?
I LET GO OF THAT DREAM, GOT A JOB AND MARRIED,
BUT WORK WAS A BORE AND A DECENT LIFE LACKED THRILL — THAT'S WHY...
I GRABBED MY GUITAR AND LEFT MY HOME.
AND FOR MANY YEARS I'VE BEEN PLAYING TO HIT IT BIG.
HE SOUNDS NORMAL, THOUGH.
BUT IT DIDN'T SEEM LIKE STARDOM WOULD COME ANYTIME SOON.
SO I WAS THINKING OF GOING BACK TO MY WIFE'S HOUSE
SOME-THING LIKE THAT.
Tsuba
WORST GUY EVER.

—I THOUGHT OF THAT...
AND THEN I REALIZED,
I DIDN'T HAVE MY RING.
BUT YOU HAVE...
A WHOLE BUNCH ON YOU
Ugh
I CAN'T FACE MY WIFE WITH-OUT IT.
MY WEDDING RING, THE ONE I GOT WHEN I SWORE AT THE CHAPEL.
THAT'S WHY...
I'D LIKE YOU TO FIND IT, MR. DETEC-TIVE...

Gasp
Clatter
BUT I DON'T EVEN KNOW...
WHERE I SHOULD START...
FIND IT...
LET'S DO THIS!
I ACCEPT! I'D BE GLAD TO HELP YOU!
Squeeze
YOU'RE SUDDENLY INTERESTED
—THAT'S RIGHT, COME TO THINK OF IT...
I'M JUST LOOKING FOR A LOST OBJECT. I DON'T NEED TO FOLLOW ANYONE.

IT'S BETTER THAN FIGHTING DOGS AND BEES.
I'LL ASK YOU JUST IN CASE,
BUT DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHERE YOU MIGHT'VE LOST IT?
ER—M...
MY OLD GIRLFRIENDS' HOUSES. ♡
Extremely shy
AFTER I LEFT HOME, I'VE BEEN LIVING WITH OTHER GIRLS,
AND I HAVE THIS HABIT OF TAKING EVERYTHING OFF WHEN I GO TO SLEEP.
SO YOU'RE ASKING ME TO RUMMAGE THROUGH A STRANGER'S HOUSE!?
YOU CAN USE THESE.
Shank

THAT'S WHY I COULDN'T DO THIS MYSELF.
AND I WIND UP BUMPING INTO HER, WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN?
...IF I GO IN THINKING SHE'S GONE
TRY THE DECENT WAY.
MAY I LOOK THROUGH YOUR HOUSE?
I'D LIKE TO ASK FOR YOUR COOPERATION.
—SO THAT'S WHY...
HUH?
SNAP SNAP
LET ME PUNCH YOU FIRST.
BUT...
AH, THAT WORKED OUT BETTER THAN...
THAT'S FINE.

WE'VE GONE THROUGH HALF THE PEOPLE YOU'VE MENTIONED.
GASP
Pain!
SNAP
CRACK
YOU'VE GOT A COLORFUL FACE GOING ON
AND I'M THROWING IN THE TOWEL TEMPORARILY.
IF IT WERE ME, I'D GET BEATEN TO A PULP AT THE FIRST HOUSE.
THEY HELD BACK BECAUSE YOU'RE A DETECTIVE.
WHY AM I THE ONE...
WHO ALWAYS GETS PUNCHED?

MAYBE YOU JUST LEFT IT AT HOME.
I DEFINITELY HAD IT ON WHEN I LEFT
AND I'VE NEVER RETURNED.
Wrong
WHAT A CUTE STORY.
AND EVERY TIME I CHEATED ON HER SHE'D BEAT ME UP. ALL MY FRONT TEETH ARE IMPLANTS.
MY WIFE IS AN EXPERT AT KARATE,
IF SHE FOUND OUT ABOUT THIS MESS, SHE'D BEAT HIM TO DEATH.
ARE YOU PICKING A FIGHT WITH HIS WIFE!?
MISS FUMIO!?
IS IT ALRIGHT IF I VISIT YOUR HOME?

—ARE YOU PLANNING SOMETHING, MISS FUMIO?
HERE YOU GO
NO ONE SHOULD BE THERE
clack
GO AHEAD
ANYWAY, ARE YOU ALRIGHT, MR. GOAT?
REALLY?
I JUST FELT LIKE HELPING OUT THIS TIME.
I'M FINE, TOTALLY FINE!
REALLY?
IN A SENSE, YOU'VE GOT THE VISUAL-KEI LOOK
SMIRK

AS LONG AS I HAVE ENOUGH STRENGTH, I'LL KEEP INVESTIGATING!
Going crazy
SO WE'VE GONE THROUGH ALL THE GIRLS
I'M STARTING TO LOSE HOPE.
DON'T SAY THAT!
Hyper
WE'LL THINK OF ANOTHER PLAN!
MR. BLACK GOAT.
IT'S YAGI.

YOU'RE A GOOD DETECTIVE.

YOU'RE THINKING SO SERIOUSLY,

EVEN THOUGH A RETARD LIKE ME'S ASKING YOU A FAVOR

.....

AN UNEXPECTED REACTION.

MY WIFE WAS A GOOD WOMAN.

I CAN RELATE TO HIM.
THAT ENDED UP BEING A BURDEN ON ME.
SHE MANAGED A JOB, DID HOUSEWORK, AND STILL KEPT CLOSE RELATIONSHIPS
EVEN THOUGH SHE WAS A BIT SHORT-TEMPERED,
SHE ALWAYS ENDED UP FORGIVING ME
BUT—
THERE ARE A BUNCH OF SO-CALLED MUSICIANS OUT THERE,
AND I'M NOT AN ESPECIALLY TALENTED INDIVIDUAL
I KNEW IT, BUT WHEN MY WIFE POINTED THAT OUT I GOT FRUSTRATED

I CAN KIND OF UNDER-STAND THAT TOO.
AND THAT'S WHY I ENDED UP RUNNING AWAY AND DIVING DEEPER INTO MUSIC.
BUT...
I'M JUST USELESS
EVEN THE DEAL WITH THE RING
GEEZ.
IF I KNEW I'D FRANTICALLY SEARCH FOR IT LIKE I'M DOING RIGHT NOW,
I NEVER WOULD'VE TAKEN IT OFF SO EASILY.

THERE'S NOTHING LEFT...
STILL,
YOUR WIFE WILL FORGIVE YOU
YOU SAID SO YOURSELF.
YOU THINK SO?

THAT IN THE END, SHE'D FORGIVE YOU.
MAYBE
DEFINITELY
—DID I REALLY SAY THAT?
THE REASON I SAID THAT...
WASN'T ONLY BECAUSE I FELT BAD FOR TAKING ON HIS CASE JUST BECAUSE OF MISS FUMIO...
BUT I HONESTLY BELIEVED IT WAS TRUE.
REALLY.

EVEN IF WE COULDN'T FIND THE RING.
Tiny.
A RING
WHAT IS THIS!?
Not really.
THAT WAS QUICK.
—WELL,
WHAT WAS ALL THAT WORK FOR—
SHOCK

THE NAME AND DATE ARE CORRECT.
THE DESIGN...
WAS SOMETHING LIKE THIS.
WELL, MISS FUMIO ENDED UP FINDING IT.
I KNEW YOU COULD DO IT, MR. DETECTIVE.

grin
Slide
—YOU'RE NOT...
VISUAL-KEI TODAY
I'M SEEING MY WIFE,
SO I NEED TO DRESS PROPERLY.
Crisp
IT'S LIKE HE'S GOING TO A WED-DING.
The bouquet and all

I THOUGHT THAT IF I WORE THIS RING,
I'D HAVE A RIGHT TO SEE MY WIFE.
BUT MAYBE I DIDN'T NEED IT.
—WHEN YOU SAID...
THAT MY WIFE WOULD FORGIVE ME...

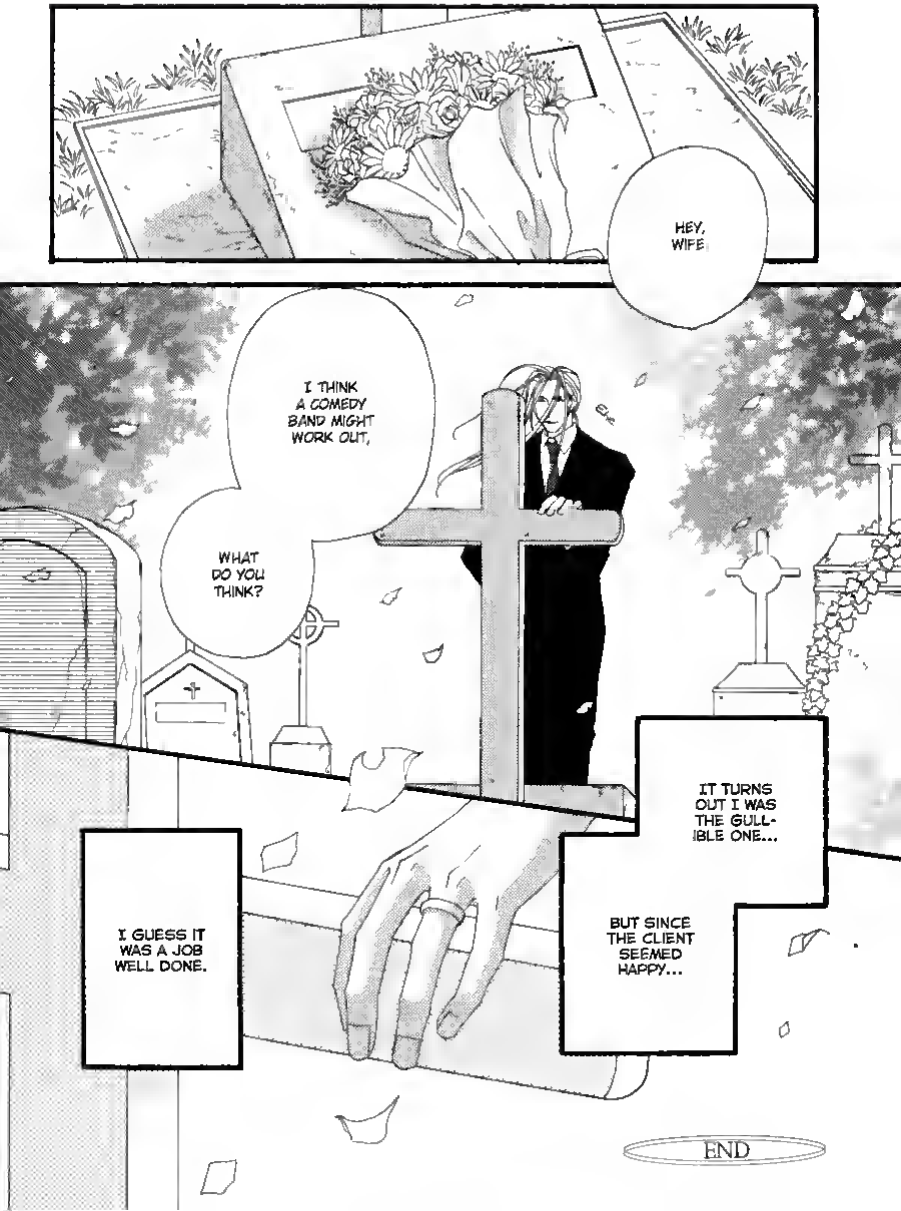
IT MADE ME...
REALLY HAPPY, MR. BLACK GOAT.

SO I KEPT QUIET.
BUT THAT DIDN'T REALLY MATTER AT THAT MOMENT.
IT'S NOT BLACK GOAT. IT'S YAGI.

MISS FUMIO,
WHAT'S WITH THESE EXPENSES?
RUSTLE
Flutter
!
FOR THE RING.
Clatter
I GOT A HOLD OF THE RING'S CERTIFICATE AS WELL AS THE RECEIPT TO LOOK IT UP,
AND SINCE I GOT THE NAME ENGRAVED AT THE LAST MINUTE, IT COST EXTRA MONEY
YOU BOUGHT THAT!?

HE SAID TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, BUT HE DIDN'T TELL US TO FIND THE REAL THING.
SO THAT MEANS I TRICKED HIM.
SO HE WOULD'VE NOTICED
YOU GAVE IT TO HIM BRAND NEW, CASE AND ALL,
YOU SWINDLER!
"IN SICKNESS AND IN HEALTH..."
VOWS?
THE VOWS HE MADE DURING THE WEDDING ARE VOID.
PLUS,

THAT WAS—
THAT'S RIGHT. HE WASN'T DRESSED UP FOR A WEDDING.


HEY, WIFE.
I THINK A COMEDY BAND MIGHT WORK OUT,
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
IT TURNS OUT I WAS THE GULLIBLE ONE...
BUT SINCE THE CLIENT SEEMED HAPPY...
I GUESS IT WAS A JOB WELL DONE.
END

Fumetsu no Hana

Where Have All The Flowers Gone